

The Story of God

Samuel

I & 2 Samuel are one book

- I Samuel 1-7 focuses upon Samuel, with a conclusion in 7.15-17
- I Samuel 8-14 focuses on Saul, with a conclusion in 14.47-52
- I Samuel 15-II Samuel 8 focus on David, with a conclusion in 8.15-18
- II Samuel 9-20 focus on David, with a conclusion in 20.23-26
- II Samuel 21-14 focus on the kingdom

The events in the book follow the pattern set forth in two songs in the book

- I Samuel 2.1-10
- II Samuel 22.1-51 (Psalm 18)
- Hannah's poem comes at the beginning of the book, and sets the tone of interpreting the book
- David's poem is at the end—a reflection that validates the interpretation

What is the interpretation?

- A physically barren woman (probably reflecting the spiritual condition of the nation during the time of Judges) appeals to the God of the universe for help. 1.11
- Through God's intervention, Hannah interprets His action
- God protects His people, vindicates the righteous, and destroys the wicked.

David's song is a reflection of his reign,
and it contains the same themes

- Neither Hannah nor David talk about their accomplishments, or their strengths
- They talk about God's accomplishments, and His strength

I Samuel

- I Samuel 1-7 A prophet from God: Samuel
- I Samuel 8-14 A king in the place of God: Saul
- I Samuel 15-31 A king in pursuit of God: David

Samuel (1-7)

- Is born out of supernatural circumstances
- Gave himself completely to the Lord, in opposition to Eli's sons, Hophni and Phineas
- Judged Israel during its darkest times of defeat by the Philistines, to the time of Israel defeating the Philistines, 7.13-17
- Yet leaves no godly seed. I Samuel 8.3

Saul (8-14)

- Chosen as the first king of Israel, he represents a new Adam—a fresh beginning for Israel
- But this man has disaster written all over him from the beginning
–2.3; 9.2; 16.7
- He quickly oversteps his bounds.
13.8-14

- He disobeys the clear command of God. 15.
- But he did manage to build himself a monument. 15.12
- Dies without a godly seed. I Samuel 31.6

David

- 16.7 is the king after God's heart
- 17—the Goliath story is a story about David's faith, not his strength
- 18-30—nothing can keep David from becoming the king. And, David's relationship with God is often contrasted with Saul's "non-relationship"
- 31—Saul comes to an end